

**From:** Doughslap@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2003 8:46 PM  
**To:** adoptionregs@state.gov  
**Subject:** Comments on 22CFR Parts 96 and 98  
Regarding bill 22CFR Parts 96 and 98

I am ströngly against its provisions. Once again our government is delving into something they should not. Can the government leave a system alone that is working?? Where does our government think that these countries are going to get the money to pay for the fees that will be imposed on them? The poor birth mothers don't even get a bag of flour, a sack of cornmeal, a bag of potatoes etc. How does our government think that these countries will be able to pay the lofty fees of thousands of dollars that this bill would mandate?? I wish that our government would leave well enough alone. How come these systems have worked so far with educated people conducting Homestudys? And guess what, they don't have a Master's Degree? What is the need for insurance now? Whose best interest do we have in mind here? Obviously not the children. Are we seeing an area where our government could make some extra money?

My sister and I are adopted and are in our early forty's and late thirties and were brought into a loving home. Is the US Government going to deprive other children of this life? As you know there are so many wonderful parents including us who have no other alternative but adoption so we too can have a loving happy family. I am sure you know this but for every healthy child born in the US there are 200 couples that want that child. The infant mortality rate in Guatemala is already 51% and that is the country we are trying to adopt from. Let's not delve into another place where we have no business and try to save the world. Unless you want to find dead babies all over the place like trash cans, sides of the road and other fine places, LEAVE THE SYSTEM ALONE!!

The liability insurance, the audits, the paper work and budget reserves are unnecessary. We have been trying to adopt for three years and would be completely discouraged if this time frame would be stretched to five or six years. Our fees for our adoption now stand at \$24,000. The proposals in the bill would triple that amount and make it impossible for many people to adopt, including us. Not only will children not be adopted but a substantial number of Americans will loose their jobs because no one will be able to adopt except the very wealthy. If you reduce the number of adoptions, the number of people employed will also be reduced.

This Bill will cause many CHILDREN to Die, who would have otherwise have been raised in loving homes. This bill will also cause many Americans to loose their jobs. We urge you to very carefully consider how the provisions of this bill are to be implemented.

A VERY Concerned Citizen,  
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